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FORM PTO-1390 (REV. 11-2000) EPAK OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

ATTORNEY 'S DOCKET NUMBER

VAC.483

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5

09/937942

| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/US00/08821  | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 31 March 2000  | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 02 April 1999        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| TITLE OF INVENTION VACUUM ASSISTED CLOSURE SY   | STEM WITH PROVISION FOR INT  | RODUCTION OF AGENT                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US<br>JOHNSON, Royce W.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Applicant herewith submits to the United Sta  | ntes Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US)  | the following items and other information: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. This is a FIRST submission of items  | s concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUE   | NT submission of items concerning a filing u   | nder 35 U.S.C. 371.                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. X This is an express request to begin n items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated   | ational examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 3' below.  | 71(f)). The submission must include        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. The US has been elected by the expi  | ration of 19 months from the priority date (A  | rticle 31).                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. A copy of the International Applicat a. is attached hereto (require  | ion as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))<br>d only if not communicated by the Internation  | nal Bureau)                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. has been communicated by   |  | iai Barcaaj.                               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c. 🔀 is not required, as the appl   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | ne International Application as filed (35 U.S.   | C. 371(c)(2)).                             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. is attached hereto.  | 44-1 don 25 U.S.C. 154/d)/4)   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b.  has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).  7.  Amendments to the claims of the International Aplication under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. have been communicated l   | by the International Bureau.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c. have not been made; howe   | ver, the time limit for making such amendme  | ents has NOT expired.                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| d. 🗶 have not been made and w   | ill not be made.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. An English language translation of the   | ne amendments to the claims under PCT Arti   | cle 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)).             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. X An oath or declaration of the invento  | or(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10. An English lanugage translation of the Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).  | he annexes of the International Preliminary E  | xamination Report under PCT                |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Items 11 to 20 below concern documen  | t(s) or information included:  | * ·  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11. An Information Disclosure Statem  | ent under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.  | 1  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12. An assignment document for record   | rding. A separate cover sheet in compliance  | with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13. A FIRST preliminary amendment.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14. A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT p  | reliminary amendment.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15. A substitute specification.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16. A change of power of attorney and   | l/or address letter.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17. A computer-readable form of the s   | equence listing in accordance with PCT Rule  | e 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18. A second copy of the published in   | ternational application under 35 U.S.C. 154(o  | 1)(4).                                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19. A second copy of the English lang   | A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20. X Other items or information:   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Addressee" service, Express Mail Label No. EL6390<br>20231.<br>Date: 10/8/0/ By:  | 10): I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the 30147US, on the othe indicated below, and is addressed to As |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| U.S. AFTICO ON NO CO km  | 57:9:4X             |         | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.<br>US00/08821      |                      |                                       | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER VAC.483 |               |  |  |
|--|---------------------|---------|--|----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|--|--|
| 21. X The following fees are submitted:  |                     |         |  |                      | CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY             |                                  |               |  |  |
| BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)):   |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO \$1000.00                    |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO\$860.00  |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$710.00  |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$690.00   |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO   |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)   |                     |         |  |                      | \$ 1                                  | 00.00                            |               |  |  |
|  |                     |         |  |                      | Ψ                                     | 00.00                            |               |  |  |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).  |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| CLAIMS   | NUMBER FIL          |         | NUMBER EXTRA                                     | RATE                 | \$                                    | -00                              | <u></u>       |  |  |
| Total claims   | 10 - 20             |         | 0  | x \$18.00            | -                                     | .00                              |               |  |  |
| Independent claims   | 1 -3                |         | licable)   | x \$80.00            | _                                     | 0.00                             |               |  |  |
| MULTIPLE DEPENI  |                     |         | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·            | + \$270.00           |                                       | 0.00                             |               |  |  |
| Applicant claim  | s small entity stat |         | F ABOVE CALCUE 37 CFR 1.27. The fees             |                      | \$                                    | 100.00                           |               |  |  |
| are reduced by 1/2.  |                     |         |  |                      | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |                                  |               |  |  |
| SUBTOTAL =   |                     |         |  | \$ 1                 | 00.00                                 |                                  |               |  |  |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).   |                     |         |  |                      |                                       | 0.00                             |               |  |  |
| TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =   |                     |         |  | \$ 2                 | 00.00                                 |                                  |               |  |  |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property +   |                     |         |  |                      | <sup>\$</sup> C                       | 0.00                             |               |  |  |
| TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =  |                     |         |  |                      | \$ 2                                  | 00.00                            |               |  |  |
|  |                     |         |  |                      |                                       | ount to be<br>refunded:          | \$            |  |  |
|  |                     |         |  |                      |                                       | charged:                         | \$            |  |  |
| a. A check in the amount of \$ to cover the above fees is enclosed.  |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| b. 🔽 Please char   | ge my Deposit Ad    | count l | No. 50-0326 in                                   | the amount of \$ 200 | 0.00                                  | to cover th                      | e above fees. |  |  |
| b. Please charge my Deposit Account No. 50-0326 in the amount of \$ 200.00 to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.  |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| c. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0326 . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.                         |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| d. Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
|  |                     |         | <b>4</b> 01. 01. 01. 01. 01. 01. 01. 01. 01. 01. |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137 (a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.                   |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| SEND ALL CORRESPO  | ONDENCE TO:         |         |  |                      |                                       | 1                                | L.            |  |  |
| KINETIC CONCEPTS, INC.   |                     |         |  | JRE JRE              |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·  |                     |         | em G. Bridi                                      |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| P.O. Box 659508  |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| San Antonio, Texas 78265-9508 42.36  |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
| I USA  |                     |         | ATION NUMBER                                     |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |
|  |                     |         |  |                      |                                       |                                  |               |  |  |